

Lewis County Department of Emergency Management



GUIDE TO EVACUATION LEVELS

A QUICK RESOURCE GUIDE



BE INFORMED: SIGN UP FOR CodeRED TXT AND TELEPHONE ALERTS at: www.lewiscountywa.gov

Lewis County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) has prepared a comprehensive disaster response plan to deal with emergencies. To help DEM and emergency personnel in the event of a fire, flood or any other emergency, it is important you and your family know what the evacuation level terms mean and know how to react.

REMEMBER, the best way to prepare for disaster in the Pacific Northwest is to: **Prepare your Home, Make a Kit, Have a Plan and Be Informed.**

LEVEL 1—A level 1 Evacuation means **alert**. Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area and monitor local media outlets for information. Residents with special needs (such as a susceptibility to breathing problems in wildfires or those with animals/pets) should take note and begin making arrangements to evacuate. For wildfires, smoke can often cause the most problems for residents, especially those sensitive to smoke and animals. Evacuations at this time are voluntary.

LEVEL 2—A Level 2 Evacuation means **be ready**. This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready at a moment's notice.

LEVEL 3—A Level 3 Evacuation means **leave immediately**. Danger to your area is current or imminent and you should leave immediately. Listen to local media and watch for emergency personnel who may be coming by to give further instructions regarding the evacuation.

During evacuations, the Mt. Rainer Chapter of the American Red Cross will establish shelters at schools, churches, or community buildings in safe zones. During an emergency, listen to local media for information on the location of a shelter. Above all, **remain calm**. Prepare your home in advance for disaster. Have a kit, make a plan and remain informed. Then you can make informed and calculated decisions for your family. Know your escape routes in advance.

PRINT AND KEEP A COPY IN YOUR HOME, CAR, OFFICE AND WITH YOUR KIT

For more preparedness information, visit: www.ready.gov